

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13
ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 DOE-15 SOE-02 NRC-05
ACDA-12 OMB-01 /155 R

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NSC - G.SICK

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R 262111Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII 0000
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK
COMSEVENTHFLT
COMIDEASTFOR
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INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL KARACHI
JCS WASHDC 0000
SECDEF WASHDC 0000
CNO WASHDC
CHIEF US ELEMENT CENTO ANKARA

S E C R E T STATE 162235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, US, XO

SUBJECT:INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT

1. A FOUR SHIP US NAVY TASK GROUP, CONSISTING OF THE AIR-CRAFT CARRIER USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65), THE CRUISERS USS LONG BEACH (CGN-9) AND USS TRUXTON (CGN-35), AND THE REPLENISHMENT SHIP USS ROANOKE (AOR-7), WILL OPERATE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE WEEKS (13 JUL - 16 AUG 1978). THE TASK GROUP WILL BE COMMANDED BY RADM E. E. TISSOT, USN,

COMMANDER CARRIER GROUP SEVEN EMBARKED IN USS ENTERPRISE.
THE SHIPS COMMANDING OFFICERS ARE:

USS ENTERPRISE, CAPT J.W. AUSTIN
USS LONG BEACH, CAPT H.C. SCHRADER, JR.
USS TRUXTON, CAPT B. F. TALLY
USS ROANOKE, CAPT. P.A. ASMUS.

THERE IS TO BE NO OFFICIAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON THIS DEPLOYMENT
PRIOR TO TRANSIT THROUGH STRAITS. FOLLOWING TRANSIT THROUGH
STRAITS, SCHEDULED FOR 13 JULY, PA GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN
PARA 4 SHOULD BE USED.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF PORT VISITS WILL BE HANDLED IN A
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ROUTINE MANNER WHEN DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCES HAVE BEEN FULLY
COORDINATED WITH EMBASSIES CONCERNED.

3. IF DEEMED NECESSARY, EMBASSIES MAY INFORM HOST GOVERN-
MENTS OF DEPLOYMENT ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS. ADVISE
DEPARTMENT, INFO SECDEF, OF SUCH ADVANCE NOTIFICATIONS.

4. ADDEES SHOULD NOT VOLUNTEER THIS INFORMATION, BUT IF
ASKED, MAY USE IN A LOW KEY MANNER THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC
AFFAIRS GUIDANCE:

A. RESPONSES TO QUERIES WILL NOT DISCUSS PROSPECTIVE AREAS
OF OPERATION, AND ANY QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT WILL BE
RESPONDED TO WITH QUOTE WE DO NOT DISCUSS FUTURE OPERATION-
AL MOVEMENTS OF OUR FORCES. UNQUOTE.

B. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT IS TO BE USED IN RESPONSE TO
NEWS MEDIA QUERIES AFTER REPEAT AFTER THE TASK GROUP HAS
ENTERED THE INDIAN OCEAN ON 13 JULY. QUOTE: A FOUR SHIP
US NAVY TASK GROUP IS CURRENTLY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. THE
TASK GROUP CONSISTS OF THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS ENTERPRISE
(CVN-65), THE CRUISERS USS LONG BEACH (CGN-9) AND USS
TRUXTON (CGN-35), AND THE REPLENISHMENT SHIP USS ROANOKE
(AOR-7). THE TASK GROUP IS COMMANDED BY RADM E. E. TISSOT,
USN, COMMANDER CARRIER GROUP SEVEN EMBARKED IN USS ENTER-
PRISE. THE SHIPS COMMANDING OFFICERS ARE:

USS ENTERPRISE, CAPT J. W. AUSTIN
USS LONG BEACH, CAPT H. C. SCHRADER, JR.
USS TRUXTON, CAPT B. F. TALLY
USS ROANOKE, CAPT P. A. ASMUS

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C. THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ARE PROVIDED FOR
USE IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUERY ONLY:

Q1: IS THERE ANY SIGNIFICANCE TO THE TIMING OF THIS DE-
PLOYMENT?

A1. NO. THIS IS A ROUTINE DEPLOYMENT IN KEEPING WITH U.S.
POLICY OF CONDUCTING NAVAL OPERATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL
WATERS AND WITH PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED INTENTIONS TO OPERATE
SHIPS PERIODICALLY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN.

Q2. WHY ARE YOU DEPLOYING NAVAL SHIPS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN
WHEN PRESIDENT CARTER HAS CALLED FOR ARMS LIMITATION IN THE
INDIAN OCEAN?

A2: PURSUANT TO THE PRESIDENT'S INITIATIVE, THE U.S. AND
THE USSR ARE CONSIDERING THE QUESTION OF ARMS CONTROL IN
THE INDIAN OCEAN. HOWEVER, NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE HAVE NOT
RESULTED IN AGREEMENTS THAT WOULD CALL FOR ANY SUBSTANTIAL
CHANGE IN OUR CURRENT DEPLOYMENT POLICY.

Q3: WILL THE SHIPS OF THE TASK GROUP MAKE PORT CALLS DURING
THE DEPLOYMENT?

A3: YES, THE SHIPS ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE PORT CALLS.
DATES AND LOCATIONS ARE NOT ANNOUNCED UNTIL DIPLOMATIC
APPROVAL HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE HOST GOVERNMENT.

Q4: IS THIS TASK GROUP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NAVAL EXER-
CISE WITH THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY TO WHICH VICE PRESIDENT
MONDALE REFERRED DURING HIS VISIT TO AUSTRALIA IN MAY?

A4: ANY PARTICIPATION BY U.S. NAVY SHIPS IN MAJOR EXER-
CISES WILL BE ANNOUNCED. OUR SHIPS CUSTOMARILY STAND READY
TO CAPITALIZE ON AT SEA TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES WHICH MAY
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OCCUR ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS DURING THE DEPLOYMENTS.

Q5: HOW MANY PACIFIC FLEET DEPLOYMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO
THE INDIAN OCEAN SINCE 1972?

A5: THERE HAVE BEEN SIXTEEN PREVIOUS DEPLOYMENTS BY
PACIFIC FLEET TASK GROUPS. THE LAST DEPLOYMENT WAS CON-

DUCTED FROM MID-FEBRUARY TO MID-APRIL 1978 BY USS FOX, USS OUELLET, USS STEIN AND USS HASSAYAMPA.

Q6: WHAT GENERAL TYPE OF OPERATIONS ARE THE SHIPS CONDUCTING WHILE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN?

A6: ROUTINE TRAINING OPERATIONS INCLUDING TACTICAL MANEUVERING, FLIGHT OPERATIONS, ENGINEERING AND COMMUNICATIONS DRILLS.

Q7: WHEN DID THE SHIPS ENTER THE INDIAN OCEAN?

A7: THE TASK GROUP ENTERED THE INDIAN OCEAN ON 13 JULY.

Q8: WHAT OTHER U.S. NAVY SHIPS ARE CURRENTLY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN?

A8: THOSE ROUTINELY ASSIGNED TO COMIDEASTFOR (NAMES MAY BE GIVEN, AS KNOWN).

Q9: WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FACT THAT THESE ARE NUCLEAR POWERED WARSHIPS?

A9: THE U.S. GOVERNMENT DOES NOT DISTINGUISH THE DEPLOYMENTS AND PORT VISITS OF NUCLEAR POWERED SHIPS FROM THOSE OF CONVENTIONALLY POWERED SHIPS.

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D. FLEET HOMETOWN NEWS CENTER AND OTHER INTERNAL NAVY RELEASES BASED ON THE STATEMENT IN PARA 4B ARE AUTHORIZED AFTER THE TASK GROUP HAS ENTERED THE INDIAN OCEAN.

5. CINCPAC: REQUEST ADVISE ALCON IN THE EVENT OF SCHEDULE CHANGES.

6. FOR US NATO: MISSION SHOULD PASS ABOVE TO MILITARY COMMITTEE VIA USDELMC.

7. FOR JAKARTA, SINGAPORE AND KUALA LUMPUR: POLICY RE STRAITS TRANSIT REMAINS AS EXPRESSED IN STATE 222096 (1973).
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NNN

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TAGS: MOPS, US, XO
To: ABU DHABI ADDIS ABABA MULTIPLE
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